



GOLD SEPTEMBER 2025

No Child Left Behind: Prioritising Childhood Cancer in the Next EU Budget

23.09.2025, 17.00 - 19.00 CEST

European Parliament (SPAAK 7C50), Brussels



Co-hosted by MEP Vlad Voiculescu (RE, RO) & MEP Romana Jerkovic (S&D, HR)

The European Society for Paediatric Oncology (SIOPE) and Childhood Cancer International - Europe (CCI-E) invite you to participate in this key event dedicated to raising awareness about paediatric cancers in Europe and advocating for continued and increased EU funding for childhood cancers in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). The MFF is the EU's long-term budget that sets expenditure priorities for a seven-year period, shaping investments in critical areas such as healthcare and research.

The current MFF (2021–2027) has supported paediatric oncology through EU4Health and Horizon Europe, driving progress in care, research, and innovation. Initiatives like Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the EU Cancer Mission further show the EU's commitment.

However, challenges in implementation remain. To significantly address these issues, it is imperative that the unmet needs of childhood cancer patients and survivors remain a priority for the EU, emphasising the need for continued funding in the next MFF.

This event will explore both the successes and the gaps in the implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the EU Cancer Mission. The discussion will focus on how these gaps must be addressed in the next MFF to ensure progress.

Join us in Brussels to ensure that no child is left behind in the next EU budget.



Agenda

17:00 – 17:10

Special Welcome Address

MEP Romana Jerkovic, (S&D,HR), Co-Host
Uta Dirksen, SIOPE President (University of Essen, DE)
Anita Kienesberger, CCI-E Committee Chair

17:10 – 18:40

Moderated discussion and reflections from key stakeholders

Moderator: Maja Beck-Popovic, SIOPE Board Member

Panel 1: Europe's Beating Cancer Plan & Cancer Mission: Successes and Gaps

Ruth Ladenstein, SIOPE Board Member, ERN PaedCan Coordinator (St. Anna Hospital, AT)
Matthias Schuppe, DG SANTE – European Commission, Deputy Head of Unit for Cancer and Health
Carina Schneider, CCI-E Managing Director and Patient Advocate
Annika Nowak, DG RTD – European Commission, Head of Sector for EU Cancer Mission

Panel 2: The next MFF: How to Make Childhood Cancer a Priority

Gilles Vassal, SIOPE Board Member and Policy Lead (Gustave Roussy, FR)
Delphine Heenen, Patient Advocate, KickCancer Founder, CCI-E Committee Member
MEP Vlad Voiculescu (RE, RO)
Enrique Terol, Permanent Representation of Spain

18:40 – 19:00

Closing Remarks

MEP Vlad Voiculescu, (RE, RO), Co-Host
Uta Dirksen, SIOPE President (University of Essen, DE)
Anita Kienesberger, CCI-E Committee Chair

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